

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

EXCISE
Department of State

NO 73

05737

1953 MAR 17 PM 7 08

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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RPT INFO: " BELGRADE 1
" ROME 373
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REFERENCE: Athens 2781, March 14; 2800, March 16.

While Department agrees that serious situation would result from Yugoslav military intervention in Albania particularly in view indicated Italian reaction such eventuality, Department has no evidence to support rumors of serious unrest within Albania at this time nor of any unusual Yugoslav troop movements on Albanian border, which appear to have given rise to excessive Italian apprehensions.

Suggest that as additional assurance in discussing this question with Greek you should clearly reaffirm position that US seeks establishment of free and independent Albania in which no neighboring country would exert predominant influence. (Re last paragraph reference telegram 2781).

Department has reason believe that British policy in regard

Drafted by:

EUR:EE, RME, Cknagel:bah 3/17/53

Clearances:

GTI-Mr. Dixon
WE-Mr. Knight
RME-Mr. [Signature]

RA-Mr. Adams

Cat.-----

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Walter Barbour

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in regard Albania is consistent with stated goal of US policy and is
not repeat not specifically oriented toward any one of Albania's neighbors.

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REFERENCE: Athens 2781, March 14; 2800, March 16.

Handwritten: From Dept. Africa ~~dangerous situation would result~~
 personal military intervention in ALBANIA especially in view of
 While not repeat not entirely discounting ~~reports on~~

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Suggest that as additional assurance in discussing this question with Greeks you should clearly reaffirm position that US seeks establishment of free and independent Albania in which no neighboring country would exert predominant influence. *(re last para 8 - ref 2781)*

Drafted by: *RA*
 EUR:EE:TMRecknagel:bab 3/17/53 In regard
 Classification: *Telegraphic transmission and*
 Classification: *Supervised by* Henry P. Leverich

Clearance:
 GTI-Mr. Dixon
 WE-Mr. Knight
 ENA-Mr. Ladd

Handwritten: RA-Mr. Adair

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